

St. Andrew Worship

Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024

Welcome and Announcements

Procession (Palm)

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

*Call to Worship (*Responsive*) by Thom Shuman

We come to prepare for the holiest of weeks.

*We will journey through praise, with joy on our lips;
we will travel through betrayal and death,
cradling hope deep in our hearts.*

Jesus leads us through this week, and we will follow,
for he is the life we long for,
he is the Word who sustains us.

*We wave palm branches in anticipation,
we lay our love before him, to cushion his walk.*

Setting aside all power, glory, and might, he comes:
modeling humility and obedience for all of us.

Hosanna! Hosanna!

Blessed is the One who brings us the kingdom of God.

*Hymn 197

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

(with St. Andrew Bells Choir)

*Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang;
through pillared court and temple the joyful anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast,
the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.*

*From Olivet they followed 'mid an exultant crowd,
the victor palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud;
The Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state,
nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.*

*"Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing,
for Christ is our Redeemer; the Lord of heaven, our King.
O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice,
and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.*

Prayer of Confession (*Unison*)

Ever constant Love, mixing love and hope together, you pave the way to the kingdom, but we prefer to stub our toes on the potholed roads of temptation. You would touch the cup of grace to our parched lips, but we seem to hunger for the ashy taste of bitterness. You beg us to learn the songs of salvation, but we hum along with the chorus death plays in the background of our lives.

Have mercy upon us, God of Holiness. As you come to us, you bring healing for our brokenness, peace for our troubled lives, hope for our doubting minds. May we empty ourselves of everything which keeps us from following you, so we may receive these gifts, and more, from Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Time for silent reflection.

Assurance of Grace (*Responsive*)

Laying aside judgment, God offers us redemption;
setting aside anger, God embraces us with love;
letting go of grief, God pours living water upon us.

This is the good news, my friends:

God's steadfast love endures forever.

Hosanna! Hosanna!

Blessed is the One who brings us the kingdom of God!

Amen.

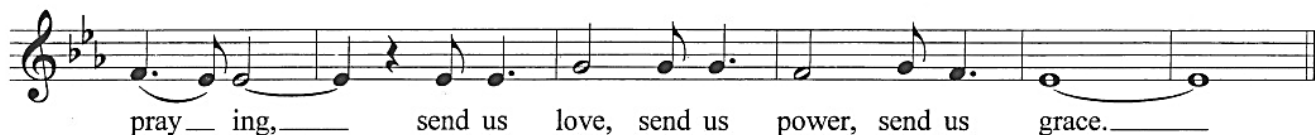
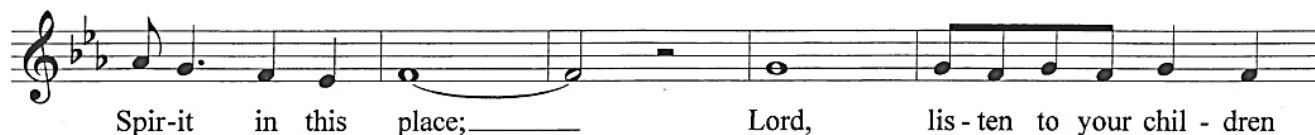
Response: *Gloria Patri* (*Unison*)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Song of Prayer

Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying



Prayers Lifted to God

635 In the Garden

The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. John 20:20

1. I come to the gar - den a - lone, While the dew is
 2. He speaks, and the sound of His voice Is so sweet the
 3. I'd stay in the gar - den with Him Tho' the night a -

still on the ros - es; And the voice I hear, fall - ing on my ear,
 birds hush their sing - ing; And the mel - o - dy that He gave to me
 round me be fall - ing; But He bids me go, thro' the voice of woe;

Refrain

The Son of God dis - clos - es.
 With - in my heart is ring - ing. And He walks with me, and He
 His voice to me is call - ing.

talks with me, And He tells me I am His own; And the joy we

share as we tar - ry there None oth - er has ev - er known.

TEXT: C. Austin Miles

Prayer for Illumination (*Unison*)

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

First Lesson:

Mark 14:1-9

It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; ²for they said, “Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.”

³While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. ⁴But some were there who said to one another in anger, “Why was the ointment wasted in this way? ⁵For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.” And they scolded her. ⁶But Jesus said, “Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. ⁷For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. ⁸She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. ⁹Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.”

Second Lesson:

John 12:1-17

Palm and Mary anointing

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵“Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?” ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, “Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.”

⁹When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came not only because of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ¹⁰So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death as well, ¹¹since it was on account of him that many of the Jews were deserting and were believing in Jesus.

¹²The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—the King of Israel!” ¹⁴Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: ¹⁵ “Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!”

¹⁶His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him. ¹⁷So the crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify.

The Worship of God Through Giving

Offertory Music

"Hallelujah, O the Cross"

St. Andrew Choir

Doxology

Offering Prayer

Holy God, sovereign over power and pain, glorious triumph and deep disappointment, we enter this holy week bringing our tithes and offerings to your altar and leaving them here in the hope you will send them to make the world a more loving and compassionate place. Remind us that your kingdom breaks into the world not as a spectacle for us to witness but as a parade where we are called to make a working contribution. We pray in the name of the one who comes not just for the parade but for the cross at the end of it. Amen.

*Hymn 201

*"A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar"**A prophet-woman broke a jar, by Love's divine appointing.**With rare perfume she filled the room, presiding and anointing.**A prophet-woman broke a jar, the sneers of scorn defying.**With rare perfume she filled the room, preparing Christ for dying.**A faithful woman left a tomb by Love's divine commission.**She saw; she heard; she preached the Word, arising from submission.**A faithful woman left a tomb, with resurrection gospel.**She saw; she heard; she preached the Word, apostle to apostles.**Though woman-wisdom, woman-truth, for centuries were hidden,**unsung, unwritten, and unheard, derided and forbidden,**The Spirit's breath, the Spirit's fire, on free and slave descending,**can tumble our dividing walls, our shame and sadness mending.**The Spirit knows; the Spirit calls, by Love's divine ordaining,**the friends we need, to serve and lead, their powers and gifts unchaining.**The Spirit knows; the Spirit calls, from women, men and children,**the friends we need, to serve and lead. Rejoice, and make them welcome!*

Benediction

The service of worship ends, the service of neighbor and world begins!